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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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200,000,000 In Ten Years

The Census Bureau reports that the population of the United States has now passed the 171,000,000-mark and the total is increasing every day.

The latest survey shows that population in this country only recently passed 170,000,000, after increasing 19,000,000 in the last six years. This is an enormous increase and expanding the predictions of the Census Bureau that the population will reach 200,000,000, representing another increase of 19,000,000, within ten years.

Take the year, 1956, for example. In that year, there were 4,094,000 births and only 1,646,000 deaths. Then, there was a gain of 199,000 immigrants — an unusually large number — which added up to a net gain of almost 2,049,000 for the year.

This is an astounding rate of growth, and means that the United States may catch up with Russia in the population category in the not unforeseeable future. The Russian population is not increasing as fast as ours although it is estimated that there are more than 200,000,000 Russians to the U. S. S. R. today. The United States is expected to reach that figure in less than ten years, and it may well be that the two countries, our population will be approximately equal.

China, however, remains the champion of all nations in the population category, with an estimated 600,000,000 people.

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Cutting The Budget

A wave of budget-cutting talk has swept Capitol Hill, apparently as a result of a groundswell of sentiment among the public concerning economy.

Not unconnected with this development are recent speeches by former President Herbert Hoover, former Vice President John N. Garner and many others, all of whom urged Congress to economize in the present period of inflation.

Senator Harry F. Byrd, Virginia Democrat, has said the budget must be cut and has proposed a budget of his own which would save Millions of dollars. Minority House leader, Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Massachusetts Republican, says the Eisenhower budget is "unbearable" to the American people and he agrees that cuts must be made.

Other leaders in Congress agree that reductions are in prospect, and these leaders include both the leaders of the Senate. Therefore, it seems the question of cuts is now settled and the only remaining factor of doubt is the amount the budget will be cut.

President Eisenhower's budget calls for an outlay of $71,800,000,000. In many circles, a $65,000,000,000 limit is considered preferable, although we do not believe Congress will have the fortitude to whack more than $6,000,000,000 of the Eisenhower budget. We do think Congress would do well to trim the budget to less than $70,000,000,000 and apply what is saved to tax cuts and debt reduction.

One school of thought favors applying any surplus to debt reduction, and another school of thought favors tax reduction. Our thinking is that any surplus should be divided both ways: part to a tax cut to benefit the average citizen, and the rest to reducing the fantastic public debt, which mortgages future generations.

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Small Town People

The other day we were reading a sports column by Jimmy Cannon, writing from New York and it pleased small town people. We were very much interested in the opinion expressed and agree most heartily.

Cannon noted that some fraudulently sophisticated city slickers lived under the assumption that small town people were to be ridiculed. We have always believed, as Cannon does, apparently, that small town people are the backbone of this country.

It is in the average small town, or city, and in the rural areas, that the real strength of this country lies. Of course, the cities have bright lights, many modern conveniences and other new fads, gadgets and entertainments that small-town life may not have.

On the other hand, the advent of the automobile, television and modern conveniences powered by electricity have made it possible for those living in small towns and in rural areas to have many of the things which formerly were available only in the cities, and to enjoy the many benefits of non-city life, as well.

As to the people themselves, we say that most small-town people, or rural folk, have a sort of dignity of simplicity which is both wholesome and refreshing, and which is one of the characteristic traits of the typical American.

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Eden's Days Numbered

Reports from London reveal Anthony Eden is not a well man.

Eden, who is fifty-nine, underwent three gall bladder operations—one of them in Boston—in 1953. Last year he was reported suffering from abdominal pains when he went to Jamaica for a rest.

It will be recalled that Eden gave his health as his reason for resigning as Prime Minister of Great Britain and latest reports indicate that there might have been more to the explanation that some believed at the time.

Whatever the case, credit can never be taken from this man for the courageous stand he evidenced in the 1930's, when the world was falling down and the dictators seemed to be irresistible and unstoppable. At that time he resigned from the Government rather than go along in appeasing the dictators.

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American expert on foreign affairs: A man who has crossed the Atlantic and spent a few weeks abroad.

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There are some people who still believe in the dictator system, provided they can be dictator.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY DR. KENNETH L. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Matthew 22:15-22
Devotional Reading: Isaiah 10:20-23

Highest Command

Lesson for March 17, 1957

WE ALL live by authority of some kind. When some one says, "Do this!" we do it—willingly or unwillingly—but we do it if we can. If a man says, "I want my man's collar," I do as I please. I am my own authority. A close observer can often perceive that the man is fooling himself. He may have certain habits, certain appetites. He may be one whom Dorothy Parker describes: "Some men cannot pass a bookstore. They may be lovers of liquor, or fishing tackle, or women,—something says with compelling voice to this beautiful man, 'Come!' and he hides no time coming. Sometimes the man who brags most of his own freedom is the man who is the most willing slave.

Dr. Foreman

Who Is in Charge Here?

Consider some of the many bosses of the human race. One authority whose voice is loud is the land is the "Voice of the People." Some politicians live by it. A politician will split the world in twain the world what a low-grade rat this opponent is; but then the opponent back him in the primary, and the politician sings another tune. "The people have spoken," he says, and turns around to support the very man who he had just been saying was hardly fit to be dog-catcher. Others again regard the law as the highest command. In their eyes, law can turn right into wrong or wrong into right. But the law is a human thing; any good lawyer will admit that there is a gap between what the law commands or permits, and what is morally right. Law tries to catch up with morals; it never creates right or wrong.

Money Talks

Others again find their highest authority in money. Some will admit it, some will not. But wherever you find a person making all his decisions in the light of the one question, 'What will make the most money? Or, What will cost the least? then you know that for that person the last word is with the cash account. One form of this authority is Business. If it's good for Business it's good for the country. In the name of this authority many practices are advocated which are definitely not good for the people who make up the country. For many other persons, the highest command is the voice of the one who is most loved. In times gone by, it might be the King's Favorite. In our more democratic era, individual citizens may take their wife's or husband's word as the last word. Or—to take one more type, for a vast number of persons the highest authority is their Church. Some people even think the church cannot make a mistake!

Jesus, Lord of All

For the Christian, however, his highest command is that of Jesus Christ. The vows taken when a person is confirmed, or joins the church, profess, sometimes in these very words, "I take Jesus Christ for my Lord and Savior." "For my **Lord** . . ." If the word means what it was intended to mean, it means that above all other authorities is His. All these other commands have their places; but his is supreme. In a great corporation there are many persons with authority, but only one President.

No decision at lower levels is valid if it conflicts with a policy the President has laid down. So there are situations where the money question is decisive. There are other situations in which a political party's decision, slate or platform may be decisive for the party worker, — and so on. But if decisions on these lower levels come into conflict with what we may call the policy of Jesus, then those lower decisions must give way. In Jesus' lifetime He challenged every authority that confronted him. He was responsive to authority within proper bounds (as when He paid taxes or when placed on oath in a trial) but even over the church, even over the inspired Law, He claimed first right. The sensible Christian does not claim for Jesus what he did not claim for himself. He did not set up to be an authority on forms of government, financial affairs or farming. But He did lay down certain great principles founded in the will and nature of the heavenly Father.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Washington Notes

SOIL BANK

Agreements signed by farmers through February 15 will retire 16,150,000 acres from surplus crops under the Soil Bank program this year. They would earn payments totaling $412,487,000. The Soil Bank law authorizes the annual payment of a maximum of $750,000,000 for the retirement of land from such crops as wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco.

BUILDING ACTIVITY

Building contracts awarded in the United States during January totaled $12,299,000,000, a gain of 4 per cent over January, 1956. Factory construction led the pace, with contract awards up 32 per cent. Awards for all types of nonresidential construction showed a gain of 16 per cent.

FARM PRODUCT PRICES

Farm product prices declined 2 per cent between mid-January and mid-February, according to the Agriculture Department. Price declines for hogs, tomatoes, lettuce, dairy products and potatoes more than offset slight increases for oranges, chickens and some commercial vegetables. Mid-February price level was about 5 per cent higher than a year ago, but was still about 17 per cent below the record for February set in 1951.

SAVINGS

Americans added more than $14,000,000,000 to their savings in 1956, bringing the total at year-end to $349,000,000,000, according to the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. After taxes, the average American put almost 5 cents of every income dollar into one of a variety of saving accounts, such as savings and loan associations, savings banks, credit unions, and the Postal Savings systems, holdings of Government savings bonds and life insurance reserves.

BOND RATE RISE?

The U. S. Treasury would be authorized to raise from 3 to 3 1-2 per cent the interest rates on Government Savings Bonds purchased on or after last Feb. 1, under an authorization voted by the House Ways and Means Committee. This would have to be approved by the House and Senate before it could go into effect. The Treasury would be empowered to pay the same rate of interest on older bonds maturing after Feb. 1, provided they are extended another ten years.

U. S. OWNED TIMBER

Approximately a third of the S. Lumber supply comes from National forests, reports the Geographic Society. The Forest Service says no commercial logging has been standing on private land, after adding the highest bidder.

ATOMIC INDUSTRY

The rapid expansion of the atomic industry is demonstrated by the fact that private investment power will total $500,000,000 compared with 600,000 two years ago, says McGraw-Hill's publication, Nucleonics. About 200 companies are currently active in the field, 90 instrument-makers, and more than 2,000 others are in business indirectly.

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...period of convalescence is ...tiring and discouraging than ...he recently experienced. ...himself becoming ...ahead after very little ex...Perhaps, after all, when ...is fighting back to health, ...gives the opportunity of ex...the feelings of the aged, ...lary and discouraged. All of ...them are meant to teach ...valuable truths.

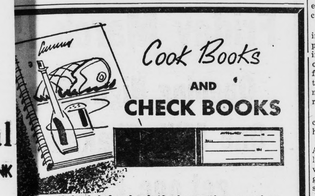
...so easy to sit around and ...with the forces of nature ...Those who are spineless ...naturally lack energy, some...fall by the wayside and become chronic compalineers and invalids.

When you find yourself just getting over an illness, with every ounce of energy sapped from your body, remember that now is your time to fight.

You cannot get strong again unless you build yourself with food at frequent intervals. As you improve, begin exercise in moderation. You can lie on the bed and tense and relax your arms and legs. That massages your muscles and brings fresh blood to rebuild the tissues. Help your circulation by bathing and rubbing yourself if you have no one to do it for you.

As soon as you are able, start taking short walks. Breathe deeply as you go along. The sunshine, the green trees, the beauty of God's own great outdoors brings healing to the soul as well as to the body. Lie down, rest and relax before you grow extremely weary.

The Soviet Union recently extended new credits and aid to Bulgaria in the latest of a series of moves to cement its links with the satellite nations.



Cook Books AND CHECK BOOKS

A cook book helps the thrifty housewife to transform odds and ends of food into tasty dishes. A check book, through the record it provides, helps in the financial management of the family's funds.

Yes, in most homes, the check book is just as important as the cook book—or more so. You are invited to carry your Checking Account at this bank.

The Bank of Appomattox
Appomattox, Virginia
Member of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

About The Home

By Frances Dell

Pictures are that final touch that can make or break room decor. There are people who do not like pictures and the absence of them in their homes make the rooms look cold. Other people buy and hang pictures at random just to use up space.

It's not necessary to spend a fortune on paintings, pictures or etchings to decorate your home. A color photograph cut from a magazine, if framed correctly, will add that needed bit of charm.

There are a few things that should be taken into consideration when planning a picture arrangement.

First, the type of picture chosen should blend with the type of furniture in the room — for example, a modern picture or a Louis XIV would look very much out of place in a room with Victorian furnishings. Also, the colors in the picture should not clash with the color scheme of the room.

After the picture has been chosen—make sure a proper frame is cropped and matted correctly.

Remember, the delicate colorings and brush strokes of Oriental prints and the simplicity of etchings and bloc prints should not be over-whelmed by heavy ornate frames. As a general rule, these types of pictures should be widely matted and framed in simple narrow frames.

On the other hand, solid oils are correctly framed by massive, heavy frames.

Hang pictures advantageously. A miniature picture, no matter how lovely, is not hung over a sofa where one large picture or a grouping of six or eight pictures should be placed.

The picture in a home should express the tastes, interest and hobbies of the owners, framed and hung so the effect will be pleasing to the eye.

HOMEMAKERS' TIPS

If you have trouble separating egg white from yolk, try breaking the egg into a funnel. Only the white will run through.

Used greased muffin pans as molds when baking stuffed peppers so they will hold their shape.

Of the synthetic fabrics now offered for curtains, nylon, dacron, saran, velon, and glass fiber are safer than others against flames. This is because they all melt instead of blazing. When it comes to resisting the effects of sunlight, these fabrics rate high.

Cellophane should e removed from lampshades as soon as they are bought. The wrapping will cause the lampshade to warp if it stays on too long.

When heating milk in a saucepan, rinse the pan first with water and the milk won't stick.

Keep the inside surfaces of bread boxes and other tin containers from rusting by coating them with melted paraffin.

Waxing wire clotheslines provides protection against corrosion. Waxed clotheslines are easier to keep clean —just a quick dusting before hanging out wet clothes.

The House Veterans Committee rejected the Administration's request to increase the interest rate on veterans' home loans to 5 per cent.

Employers Honored At DE DO Banquet

The Distributive Education Club and the Diversified Occupations Club held a banquet on March 7 to honor their employers and members of the Advisory Committee.

John Ivey Holland presided at the banquet and he called on Marshall Cunningham to give the invocation and Robert Pankey welcomed the group. Robert pointed out that this was the first time that a banquet of this type had been attempted in Appomattox and said that the clf members were happy to see so many present.

Christine Irby gave a talk on "What DO Means to Me." She said she felt DO had helped her to meet people and she had ...r to develop good work habits. She also said that DO had helped her to attend more school functions because of the wages she received on the job.

Ann Moore rendered four lovely vocal selections, accompanied by Peggy Godsey. This was enjoyed by all present.

Joe Fuller talked on "What DE Means to Me," stating that he had signed up for DE because he could receive two credits toward high school graduation, receive on the job training, and earn wages to help finance his high school expenses. Joe introduced John Ivey Holland, who gave a merchandise presentation on the "DUO-Matic" storm windows.

When washing these synthetics, use medium hot water and avoid harsh twisting and violent agitation in washers. Such action causes creases which often cannot be removed.

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Mr. T. DeWitt Evans told the employers what they were doing to contribute to the growth of Appomattox by having patience and understanding to help train the students in DE and DO. He also said it would be interesting to look back twenty years from now and see how many of these students would be the leading business people in Appomattox. Mr. Evans then gave out certificates to those present, appointing them to the honorary faculty of Distributive Education and Diversified Occupations of Appomattox High School. The certificates were rolled and tied in green and yellow ribbon, which were the colors used in the programs, place cards, flowers and candles. Those to receive honorary appointments were: Mr. Ivey Holland, Mr. John Grinels, Mr. James Lewis, Mr. J. C. Simpson, Mrs. W. R. Reynolds, Mr. Mike Godsey, Mr. Fred Lawson, Mrs. Murna Franklin, Mr. Bob Haley, Mr. A. R. Harwood, Jr.; Mr. Walter LeGrand, Mr. William W. Burke, Mr. Charels T. Moses, Sr.; Mrs. Mary Ranson, and Mr. J. L. Blackwell.

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